

Tom Mix does much talking in Variety, what he has to say is worth digesting!

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SCRUBBING FOR PARAMOUNT



THIS WEEK in Canada everybody works for Paramount-Publix without receiving any pay, it is one of the free weeks which Paramount - Publix brilliantly conceived

as one of the solutions of its economic ills. In addition to receiving two cuts in wages, salary, etc., employees are expected to work two weeks without pay; and also to purchase Paramount shares with the dollar or two which they have over the price of daily bread.

This being one of the weeks, every employee is expected to have arranged last week for this week's supplies; and in the case of scrub-women, since their wages were cut from nine per week to seven per week, hardly enough to take care of two weeks' supplies, Paramount-Publix probably expects these poor scrub-women to be satisfied with inhaling their soap-suds.

Apropos of this "scrubbing for Paramount without pay", we hear that increases of salaries for six executives of Paramount-Publix has been granted, the six men are Adolph Zukor, who goes from \$1,920 per week to \$3,000, John Hertz who gets a raise from \$1,733 to \$2,750 per week, Sam Katz who climbs from \$1,500 to \$2,500, Ralf Kohn from \$795 to \$1,250, while Emanuel Kohn now receives \$2,500.

Sir William Wiseman also had an increase. Now it occurs to us that Adolph Zukor could live very nicely on \$1,920 a week, since it is necessary that scrub-women shall scrub the theatres which his company controls for two weeks without receiving any pay. Incidentally, during the entire history of Famous Players Canadian it has not been necessary to have employees work without pay; and since shareholders are being paid their usual dividend, why should scrub-women be expected to scrub the floors of Famous' theatres and offices in Canada without pay?

Is it any wonder that people talk "red" and see "red"? The Digest is seeing and talking "red, white and blue", and incidentally demanding that the employees of Famous-Players in Canada, receive their pay, starting with the scrub-women first.

Paramount-Publix has managed to get away with a great many things in Canada, since it assumed control of the Famous Players Canadian, but this last flagrant imposition, whereby Mr. Zukor gives himself \$3,000 per week, and forces a poor scrub-woman to clean up his enterprises for nothing, is "the last straw"; and there had better be some pay for these scrub-women, regardless of Zukor's statement that "God gave us John Hertz, Sam Katz and Emanuel Kohn". God Save The King!

"THE WET PARADE"

"THE WET PARADE" is one of Leo's most excellent stunts, which has managed to make Toronto talk again about the ability of M-G-M to present Entertainment. It has no political bias, you being a "wet" can take it or leave it, you being a "dry" can form your own conclusions also, there are two sides to the story; and you can debate it out for yourself, which is not a half bad idea for showmen to tie-up with in the presentation of this picture. Offer the debaters subject material for a debate, on facts gleaned from "The Wet Parade", and let the public judge which side should win. Incidentally, and as usual, the cast, direction is M-G-M. 'Nough said!



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

THE INDUSTRY knows that Famous Players, hiding behind some "goats" which it led to the slaughter, managed to secure a "clean bill of health" in the prosecution under the Combine's Act. The prosecution did not prove that Famous-Players ever conspired to put anyone out of business, nor that it is especially proficient in the business of closing theatres. It might be interesting for Famous Players to explain what it has done to Mrs. O. McMaster, the late John Griffin's daughter, a widow, with an old mother and a semi-invalid son to support.

The late John Griffin left his daughter the controlling interest in three theatres, one at Chatham, one at St. Catharines and one at Woodstock. A company, of which the officers are Famous Players' employees, entered into a lease for these theatres at a weekly rental. Whereupon two theatres, one at St. Catharines and one at Chatham were closed, in order to create more business for the other theatres under Famous Players control, and only one Griffin Theatre at Woodstock remained opened.

THE THEATRES which were closed were in need of certain repairs and reconstruction, which the holding company was not disposed to carry out, in view of its other theatres in these very good key spots, but the Griffin Estate was also not disposed to forget that these theatres were closed to suit the convenience of Famous Players, destroying their good-will. A new lease was arranged in which certain arrangements were made by way of compensation for the closing of these theatres. Those in control of Famous Players now desire to cut the rental being paid for the three houses, because it is claimed these houses do not pay; and yet a dividend of approximately \$73,000 was recently paid, leaving for the expenses of operation, in the treasury, approximately \$90.00.

Since Famous Players control all, but a few "working shares", of the holding company, the \$73,000 probably goes toward helping Paramount-Publix meet its brilliant commitments and Mrs. O. McMaster is expected to live on saw-dust, regardless that a lease exists which would be 100%, if any funds had been left in the treasury of the holding company.

There are rumours of a court action and alleged "conspiracy charges". If Paramount-Publix still "welcomes investigation and litigations", its move is to force that pioneer showman's daughter to "start something". Women have a habit of "getting mad" at injustice.

UNIVERSAL had a private screening of "The Doomed Battalion". The press was there in force, and the press had the thrill of its young life. We were going to use a certain term in connection with this "Doomed Battalion", but mention-

ing it to Roly Young of The Toronto Star Weekly, he said, "Don't be surprised if I use that expression". We like Roly Young, so we said, "Help yourself," forgetting that we occasionally try to say something smart in The Digest about pictures, but maybe Roly forgot that we too are of that irritating race of scribes.

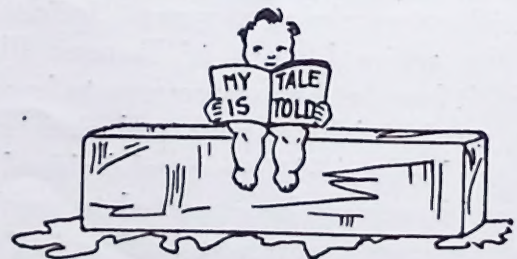
This is such a big city; it's hard to keep track of what the other fellow is doing after twelve (midnight), therefor, Roly is welcome, providing he uses our figure of speech, as nicely and as eulogistically as we would have used it. We shall see, what we shall see and this is no fairy story, although watching "The Doomed Battalion" on its skis, sailing down the Tyrolean mountains, one was inclined to wonder if it was a fairy story, it appeared to be humanly impossible.

"The Doomed Battalion" is an extraordinary picture which needs presentation, by way of informing the public as to its unusual features and by way of securing showmanship - co-operation in its exhibition.

It is the War between Austria and Italy, that is their part in the War, different from our part, because instead of trenches and dugouts, these soldiers fought up in the clouds, not in machines, which flew through the clouds, but in dugouts pounded and hammered out of the rocky sides of mountains.

To see these men sail forward on their skis for scouting, or for an attack, was a new picture thrill. The photography was another miracle of perfection, as for the cast it was an excellent one, with an Austrian beauty, who registers for ability and looks all over the screen, an actress, whom we on this continent will hear much of.

"SUNSHINE SUSIE" in its 6th week, has accomplished the "almost impossible", persuading fans to see it once, twice and even thrice. Of course Henry Nathanson and Gainsborough, which means Mickey Balcon, are happy, as for Tom Daley, he has been singing "To-day I am so happy", until we were forced to ask him whether it was the picture-song, or the box-office; and Tom being an honest exhibitor, said, "both". We are too modest to remind our readers that six weeks ago we prophesied that "Sunshine Susie" would do a box-office stunt like "The Better 'Ole", but there you are. Pardon our blushes!



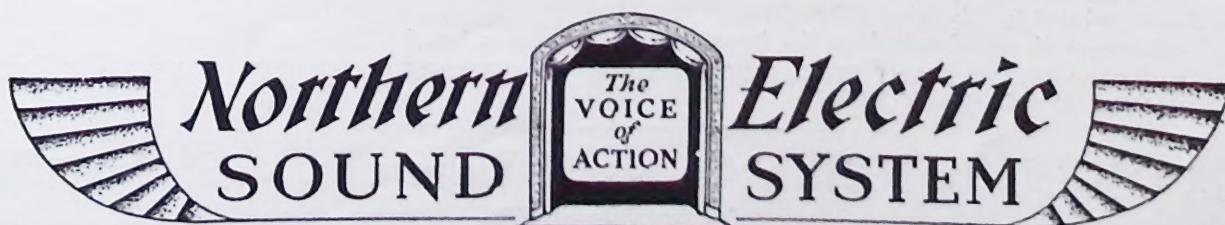
Jerry Shea should be twins, he is sticking to show business; and the shadow of his box-office never grows less!

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ARTHUR BUGG

The Midland Free Press in an editorial, mourns the recent passing of Arthur Bugg, one of our old-time showmen and Ex-Mayor of Midland, Ont. We join the Midland Free Press in mourning for the late Mr. A. Bugg and offer to his widow, Mrs. Bugg, his surviving children, our sincere sympathy and condolence.

Mr. Bugg was an Independent, who ever aided the cause of the Little Exhibitor, and who gave of his time and money to "great and small", who were in need of his assistance, or co-operation. His theatre at Midland was called "The Model", and not least among his gifts was the service of his theatre to all worth-while charitable enterprises. The children, who had but a smile to compensate them for little of this world's goods, found that Arthur Bugg valued the smile of a child as the price of admission and passed these little ones into his theatre. "Well done, good and faithful servant, in as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my children, ye have Done It Unto Me".

147 Road Show Engagements for "Grand Hotel," Premiere Showings Across Canada

BRINGING the total number of bookings for "Grand Hotel" to one hundred and forty-seven, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has announced twenty-two additional special engagements for the all-star film.

Six dates have been booked so far for June showings. These include the following:

June 4th, Strand Theatre in Edmonton, Alberta; June 6, Orpheum Theatre in Ft. William, Ontario, and Capitol Theatre, Victoria, B.C.; June 13th, Metropolitan Theatre, Regina, Sask.; June 20th, Capital Theatre in Moose Jaw, Sask.; and June 27th, Daylight Theatre, Saskatoon, Sask.

IF THE ECONOMIC SOLUTION MEANS BACK TO THE SOIL—WE HAVE A FARM FOR SALE

On the Dundas Highway, near Toronto, modern house, 11 rooms, all conveniences, electricity, and 177 acres good land, 10 acres apple orchard, tractor and other equipment, also 14 milk cows, four horses. Make me offer, or exchange proposition for theatre, must be modern and sound equipped, in good location, city or town.

BOX 7 — DIGEST

THEATRE WANTED

Apartment and Private House in Toronto For Sale, or will Exchange for Moving Picture Theatre. Address Showman, giving full particulars.

BOX 5 — DIGEST

Toronto Theatres

LOEWS—Manager Jules Bernstein — "The Wet Parade", Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, starring Walter Huston, Dorothy Jordan and Jimmy Durante.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley — "Sunshine Susie", Gainsborough picture, distributed by Regal Films, on its sixth week.

IMPERIAL—Manager H. V. Knevels — Ruth Chatterton in the First National picture, "The Rich Are Always With Us".

TIVOLI—Manager James Lynch — "Lena Rivers", a Tiffany production, adapted from the novel by Mary J. Holmes.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — "Man Wanted", Warner Bros. picture, starring Kay Francis.

The New Standardized Proportional Aperture

Since February 15th last, all films have been made with the picture image .600" x .825", exclusive of the sound track still running the full length of the film in its usual place. To use the new film made with this size aperture and not show a blank space at top or bottom of the screen, it is necessary to instal new standardized aperture plates of the above aperture size. Standardized Aperture Plates are now in stock, prices:—

Simplex, 75c each; Powers, \$3.00 each; DeLuxe Motiograph, \$7.50 each.

THE STANDARDIZED VOCALITE GLASS BEAD SOUND SCREEN.

The Beaded Screen Corporation, in connection with the announcement of the Standardized Aperture, have settled on a few Standard Sizes of the Vocalite Screen to match the Apertures at special prices. Regular Vocalite quality, immediate shipment.

5' 10" x 8' 0"	\$ 47.00	7' 10" x 11' 0"	\$ 87.00	10' 3" x 14' 0"	\$144.00
11' 7" x 16' 0"	\$186.00	13' 10" x 19' 0"	\$263.00	16' 0" x 22' 0"	\$352.00

The above prices include Frame, F.O.B. Toronto.

All sizes ordered other than the above Standard sizes will be at the rate of \$1.25 per square foot of picture area, frame included in this price, F.O.B. Toronto.

Allowance if you already have the frame, 10 cents per square foot.

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